GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:198
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2006
MEETINGS OF VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEES .
Singh Shri Sitaram

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) The names of States in which Vigilance and Monitoring Committees, constituted for monitoring the implementation of rural development schemes, have not held their meetings during the last three years and the current year;

(b) The reasons for the same;

(c) Whether the Government proposes to discontinue assistance to those States where such Committees have not been constituted or the meetings of these Committees have not been held;

(d) If so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor; and

(e) The measures being taken by the Government to ensure that the meetings of these Committees are held regularly?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.198 due for answer on 04.08.2006.

(a) to (e) As per information received from the State Governments/District authorities, the details of the States and Districts where the meetings of the State level and District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been held, are at Annexure-I to IV. The remaining States/Districts in the country have not reported holding of such meetings so far.

The concept of monitoring through State/District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee (V & MCs) with the involvement of elected representatives is comparatively a new initiative and it takes time for the political and administrative machinery to accept this form of monitoring and work on it with commitment so that the meetings are held regularly. The Government is repeatedly taking up the matter with the State Governments, District authorities and also with the Members of Parliament who are Chairmen of the District level Vigilance & Monitoring Committees with a view to see that meetings are held regularly.

Although there is a provision in the guidelines for withholding of releases to Districts where meetings of the Vigilance and Monitoring Committees are not held, the Government have resorted to repeated requests and persuasion at the level of the State/District Machinery and also with the Members of Parliament, who are Chairmen of the District level V & MCs, urging them to ensure holding of the meetings regularly. It is as a result of protracted correspondence and intensive intervention of the Government that 18 States have held 30 meetings of the State level Committees and 374 districts held 620 meetings at the district level so far, since reconstitution of these Committees in October, 2004. It is expected that the remaining states and districts will also hold meetings of the Vigilance and Monitoring Committee regularly, with the active involvement of all stake holders.

Annexure − IV

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 198 due for answer on 04.08.2006

Details of the meetings of the State level Vigilance & Monitoring Committees prior to their reconstitution in October, 2004 (During the Year 2003 − 2004)

(As on 21.06.2004).

S. No. Name of State Date of last Meeting held
1 Assam 16.07.2003
2 Arunachal Pradesh N. A.
3 Gujarat N. A.
4 Goa 16.12.2003

5	Haryana	N. A.
6	Kerala	23.10.2003
7	Karnataka-	N. A.
8	Madhya Pradesh	22.09.2003
9	Maharashtra	16.05.2004
10	Mizoram	11.07.2003
11	Meghalaya	N. A.
12	Orissa	20.01.2004
13	Punjab	N. A.
14	Uttar Pradesh	N. A.
15	Uttaranchal	N. A.
16	A & N Admn.	N. A.
17	D & N Haveli	31.10.2003
18	Lakshadweep	N. A.

N. A. = Not Reported